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C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 002566

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [CH](#) [ETRD](#) [PREL](#) [TW](#)

SUBJECT: PREMIER TO SPEAK ON CROSS-STRAITS

Classified By: AIT Deputy Director David J. Keegan. Reasons E.O. 12958 sec. 1.4 (b,d).

11. (C) Mainland Affairs Council Chairman Joseph Wu called AIT Deputy Director at about Friday, June 10, to say that Premier Hsieh Chang-ting will be in Taichung Monday to celebrate the Dragoon Boat Festival. He will give a speech that express Taiwan's willingness to move forward on three issues: tourism, cargo charters, and agricultural trade. Wu stressed that Taiwan would be seeking to move negotiations forward on these issues, and he thought that Washington and we would be pleased with Taiwan's approach.

12. (C) Wu noted that he had told NSC officials and others when he visited Washington in March that Taiwan would likely need a three to six month observation period after Beijing's passage of the Anti-Secession Law before it would be again ready to deal with the PRC on such matters. This speech is intended to mark the end of that observation period.

13. (C) DDIR thanked Wu for his call and expressed our thought that flexibility was essential on both sides. These kinds of practical measures could prove very important building blocks to enhance stability and provide benefits to both sides. DDIR noted that he hoped we would hear a different tone from some of the negative statements on cross-Strait initiatives that we had heard from the Taiwan side in recent weeks. He expressed concern at Wu's own repeated insistence that no progress was possible unless there were government to government negotiations. The success of the cross-Strait charter flights over Chinese New Year was the result of Taiwan flexibility toward representation by non-governmental commercial associations.

14. (C) Wu promised to send AIT a draft of the speech although he said it might only be available Monday morning. DDIR said that earlier would be welcome and added that I would be available all weekend. He promised to convey Wu's message to Washington.
PAAL